



MAIL STOP PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 24857

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: 1712

Erhard MUELLER, et al.

Serial No. 10/014,796

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: **SUTURE MATERIAL FOR SURGERY, PROCESSES FOR ITS PRODUCTION AND THE USE THEREOF**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examining on the merits the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as per attached with this preliminary amendment. Additionally, please cancel claims 2 and 3 as indicated by the attached set of claims.



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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

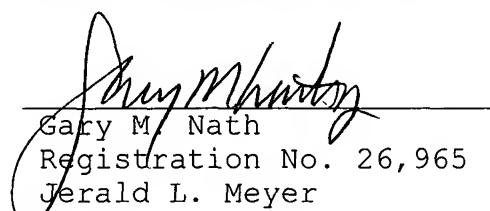
Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

- (1) Transmittal Letter
- (2) Preliminary Amendment

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,
NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

By:


Gary M. Nath
Registration No. 26,965
Jerald L. Meyer
Registration No. 41,194
Customer No. 20529

Date: August 29, 2003

NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

1030 15th Street N.W., 6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 775-8383
GMN/JLM/lss:NFMP.TRANS